

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EURE-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 CIEP-01 OMB-01

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, PINT, PO

SUBJ: AFM GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

1. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM) MET FOR MORE THAN 12 HOURS ON FEB 6. BEFORE THE MEETING OF 200 AFM DELEGATES, CAPT. VASCO LOURENCO, SPOKESMAN FOR THE COORDINATING COMMISSION, STATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER THE SESSION. HE DID, HOWEVER, SAY TOPICS DISCUSSED WERE FOLLOWING:

-- (A) POLITICAL EVOLUTION OF THE COUNTRY;

--(B) RESULTS OF THE CULTURAL DYNAMIZATION CAMPAIGN;

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--(C) THE ROLE OF THE AFM IN THE POLITICAL LIFE OF THE

COUNTRY;

--(D) REPORTS ON THE DECOLONIZATION PROCESS IN THE AFRICAN TERRITORIES.

2. LOURENCO ALSO COMMENTED ON THE FOLLOWING:

--(A) THIS MEETING WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR JAN 31. DUE TO POSSIBLE TROUBLE EMANATING FROM THE THEN SCHEDULED POLITICAL RALLIES AND THE DESIREABILITY OF KEEPING OFFICERS WITH THEIR UNITS, THE DATE WAS CHANGED TO FEB. 6.

--(B) THE ASSEMBLY IS NOT INSTITUTIONALIZED, THEREFORE IT CANNOT LEGISLATE. DECISIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY CAN BE ADOPTED THROUGH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, ALREADY INSTITUTIONALIZED (COUNCIL OF TWENTY, COORDINATING COMMISSION).

--(C) THE NATO EXERCISES (LOCKED GATE 75) WERE PLANNED A LONG TIME AGO, AND THERE IS NO ULTERIOR MOTIVE BEHIND THEM. HE HOPES THAT PEOPLE WILL NOT BE HOSTILE TOWARDS SAILORS VISITING LISBON, ADDING THAT SUCH AN ATTITUDE WOULD SLOW DOWN THE CURRENT POLITICAL PROCESS IN PORTUGAL.

--(D) "REVOLUTIONARY LEGISLATION" WILL BE PUBLISHED SHORTLY.

--(E) AFM IS PREPARING A PLATFORM OF ACTION TO BE PROPOSED TO THE POLITICAL PARTIES.

3. AFM OFFICERS SITTING AT THE PRESIDING TABLE INCLUDED:

PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES, VICE ADMIRAL PINHEIRO DE AZEVEDO, GENERAL CARLOS FABIAO, GENERAL MENDES DIAS, GENERAL PINHO FREIRE, VICE ADMIRAL ROSA COUTINHO, GENERAL LOPES PIRES, BRIG. VASCO GONCALVES, BRIG. SARAIVA DE CARVALHO, LTC CHARAIS AND MAJOR VITOR ALVES. IT WAS REPORTED THAT MAJORS COSTA BRAS AND MELO ANTUNES, AS WELL AS LT. JUDAS OF THE CC, WERE ABSENT.

4. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT, ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL CARLOS FABIAO MADE FOLLOWING POINTS IN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED "FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE" AND REPORTED IN FEB. 7 LISBON PRESS.

--(A) AFM, CONTRARY TO THE STATED DESIRES OF THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY, WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY BUT WILL CONTINUE TO EXIST UNTIL AFM SURE THAT POLITICAL FUTURE OF PORTUGAL FIRMLY GROUNDED IN AFM PROGRAM.

--(B) AFM PROGRAM IS TO INSTALL PLURALISTIC DEMOCRACY, MODIFY SOCIAL STRUCTURES, BETTER LIFE OF UNDERPRIVILEGED CLASSES, AND FIGHT AGAINST ECONOMIC MONOPOLIES.

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--(C) PORTUGUESE PEOPLE WILL DETERMINE IF AFM PROGRAM TO BE COMPLETED VIA SOCIAL REVOLUTION OR REFORMIST MEASURES; MFA IS GOVERNED BY A "PROGRESSIVE" SPIRIT.

--(D) THE MILITARY, AFTER CONSULTING THE MINISTER OF LABOR AND UNION LEADERS, FAVORS A UNITARY LABOR STRUCTURE AS PROPOSED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

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